Docket No. <u>1232-439US1</u> Appl. Ser. No. 09/534,689 Rule 312 Amdt. dated 05/11/2006

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 and MPEP § 714.16. A Notice of Allowance was issued by the United States Patent & Trademark Office ("USPTO") on May 2, 2006. The issue fee payment is due August 2, 2006, and has *not* yet been paid.

Claims 43, 46, and 50 have been indicated to be allowed. By this paper, the claims 43, 46, and 50 are amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 43 is amended to add a semicolon at the end of the fifth subparagraph (line 8). Claim 46 is amended to add a semicolon at the end of sixth subparagraph (line 9). Claim 50 is amended to add -- a-- before "charging" in the beginning of the last subparagraph (line 15). No new matter will be added to this application by entry of this amendment.

This amendment is needed to aid clarity, would not require additional search or examination, and would not adversely affect the patentability of allowed claims.

Entry of these amendments is believed to be appropriate and is requested.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

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THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO. 1232-4396US1.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 11, 2006

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